



MADD offers parent training

Looking for a way to cut down on drinking and driving, especially among teens, Mothers Against Drunk Driving is offering a research-based parent program called "Power of Parents, It's Your Influence." This program provides parents with a handbook they can use to talk with their teens about alcohol. MADD affiliates, including many in Texas, are working together with community partners to put on 30-minute workshops that teach parents how to best use the information in the handbook. The hope is to influence teens, especially around events such as prom, holidays, graduation, homecoming, and spring break. For more information, contact your local MADD affiliate office or go to madd.org/powerofparents, where you can request a free copy of the parent handbook. A list of the Texas MADD affiliates is at www.MADD.org.

Don't miss out!



**Local Projects Grant
applications due
May 18, 2011**

EMS memorial cyclists ride in May, June and September



Each spring, riders from across the U.S. participate in the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride to honor EMS personnel—those who serve every day, those who have become sick or injured while performing their duties, and those who have died in the line of duty. Two of the bike rides will be held in May; one in June; and one in September. May 14-21 will have two rides, both ending in Washington, DC: One begins in Boston and the other in Kentucky. On June 22-24, riders will pedal from Colorado to Wyoming and on September 24, the route runs from New Orleans to Baton Rouge. Each ride is actively recruiting riders and donations to help defray costs. Go to www.MuddyAngels.org for more information.

National EMS Memorial Service set for June



The 19th Annual National EMS Memorial Service will take place on June 25, 2011, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The event honors those in EMS who have given their lives in the line of duty. Seven Texans will be honored this year. Anthony Archuleta, EMT-P; William Montgomery, pilot; John Sutter, EMT-P; Ted Cafferel, pilot; Tracy Chambers, LP; and Sharon Faulkner, EMT-P, died during Texas air medical crashes in 2010. Casey Petty Steenland, EMT, died of carbon monoxide poisoning at an EMS station while on duty.

The mission of the National EMS Memorial Service is to honor those in EMS who have given their lives in the line of duty, and to recognize the sacrifice they have made in service to their communities and their fellow citizens. Each year since 1992, hundreds of family members, friends, co-workers, EMS and political leaders, and colleagues from EMS agencies from around the nation gather together for the ceremony. Members of the honorees' families are presented with a medallion, symbolizing eternal memory; a U.S. flag which has flown over the U.S. Capitol, symbolizing service to the country; and a white rose, symbolizing undying love. Each honoree's name is engraved on a bronze oak leaf which is added to the National EMS Memorial. For more info, go to www.nemsms.org.

Free online CE from Epilepsy Foundation

After training more than 3,000 EMS professionals in classroom-based settings, the Epilepsy Foundation has expanded its offerings to include an online training program. The online *Epilepsy and Seizure Response Training for EMS Personnel* is approximately 60 minutes in length and is accredited through the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS) for 1.5 CEUs. The training highlights a variety of seizures associated with epilepsy, seizures with other potential causes, on-scene EMS response, and issues to consider when determining whether further medical care is warranted. Appropriate EMS response is important to the health and safety of the over 400,000 Texans subject to seizures caused by epilepsy.

For more information about epilepsy and seizures and to access *Epilepsy and Seizure Response Training for EMS Personnel* training visit www.epilepsyfoundation.org/firstresponders. Click the "Access Trainings" link to be redirected to the CentreLearn login page. Be sure to enter promo code "10" to obtain your CEUs at no charge. To schedule a classroom-based training contact the Epilepsy Foundation Central & South Texas at (210) 653-5353, toll free (888) 606-5353 or by email at staff@efcst.org. The training was developed with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



Grants available for ECA training

Are you in a rural area that needs more EMS personnel? DSHS grant money is available for EMS training programs, registered first responder organizations (FROs), coordinators and instructors to conduct ECA courses in rural or underserved areas of the state lacking local EMS training resources. Grant funds cover the cost of instruction and textbooks, as well as other expenses such as printing and supplies. OEMS/TS will accept grant applications on a first-come-first-served basis until the funds run out for the fiscal year. Eligibility requirements for ECAT grants: A minimum of three students; students must agree to perform emergency care attendant services for at least one year with a local emergency medical service provider or first responder organization; services must be provided in a designated rural or underserved area of Texas, as determined by zip code or county; and the course coordinator must be affiliated with an educational program. And give yourself plenty of time: It takes about 60 days for an ECAT grant to work its way through the DSHS approval process. For more information, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/TrainingFunding.shtm or contact Roxanne Cuellar at (512) 834-6700 ext. 2377 or roxanne.cuellar@dshs.state.tx.us. For a list of all EMS and trauma funding available through DSHS, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/efunding.shtm.

Recently awarded:
Ora VFD & First Responders



On Duty

Moving? Let DSHS know

DSHS receives thousands of letters and cards each year returned from the post office because EMS personnel – and even providers – have moved and have not given DSHS their new addresses. Having an up-to-date address in the DSHS database is critical if you want to receive recertification and other important information in a timely manner. And if you're a magazine subscriber, the post office will **not** forward *Texas EMS Magazine* if you have moved. Changing your address is simple. Go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/Address_Name_Change.pdf, fill out the form and fax it to us. You will not receive a new card; you are still legal with your old card. When you recertify, your card will have the new address. If you want a new card, use the change-of-address form to request a replacement card/certificate for \$10. And you should separately provide your address change to the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT). Contact NREMT at www.nremt.org/nremt/EMTServices/addr_change_verify.asp.



Send in your EMS and trauma awards nominations



Send us your best in EMS and trauma! We've posted the award nomination form and an explanation of each category on our website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/11AwardsIntroduction.shtm.

Save the Microsoft Word document to your computer and fill it out by clicking in the gray areas beside each question. Include examples of why this person or organization should win. Please be specific. Keep in mind that the people who review the nominations most likely won't be as familiar with your nominee as you are. When you finish, save the file and email it back to EMSAwards@dshs.state.tx.us.

Send the file to us by email no later than October 7, 2011. The packets are then distributed to the OEMS/TS and sent to each EMS compliance group. Each program and compliance service group ranks the nominations for each category and returns the information to the OEMS/TS, where scores are tallied. Scores are kept confidential from all except those who tally the scores. Winners are announced at the Awards Luncheon at Texas EMS Conference in Austin.

Award Categories 2011

EMS Educator Award	Volunteer Provider Award
EMS Medical Director Award	First Responder Award
EMS Administrator Award	Air Medical Service Award
Public Information/Injury Prevention Award	Outstanding EMS Person of the Year
Citizen Award	Telecommunicator of the Year
Private/Public Provider Award	Regional Advisory Council of the Year
	Trauma Facility of the Year

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Meeting



May 11-13, 2011

Hilton Austin Airport
9515 New Airport Drive
Austin, Texas

Wednesday, May 11

9:00 am–10:30 am Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee
10:30 am–12:00 pm Trauma Systems Committee
1:00 pm–2:30 pm Cardiac Care Committee
2:30 pm–4:00 pm Injury Prevention Committee
4:00 pm–5:30 pm Stroke Committee

Thursday, May 12

9:00 am–10:30 am EMS Committee
10:30 am–12:00 pm Medical Directors Committee
1:00 pm–2:30 pm Pediatrics Committee
2:30 pm–4:00 pm Education Committee
4:00 pm–5:30 pm Air Medical Committee

Friday, May 13

9:00 am–Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

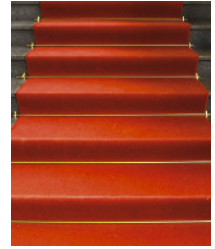
Deadline approaches for Star of Texas nominations

In 2003, the 78th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1937, which created the Star of Texas Awards to honor first responders killed or seriously injured while performing their duties as peace officers, firefighters and emergency medical first responders. The law also designated September 11th of every year as Texas First Responders Day. The first Star of Texas awards were presented in 2004 to three Texas first responders, one for each category of first responder: emergency medical, fire, and law enforcement. The 79th Texas Legislature amended the original legislation to require awards for each first responder seriously injured or killed after September 1, 2003. To be eligible for consideration for this year's awards, the critical incident must have occurred between September 1, 2003 and June 30, 2010, and the individual must have not previously received a Star of Texas Award. Nominations for this year's awards are usually due mid-summer. The awards ceremony will be held in the fall of 2011. To nominate an individual for a Star of Texas Award or to see if a deadline has been posted, go to http://governor.state.tx.us/cjd/star_awards.



Texas EMS Hall of Fame

The Texas Department of State Health Services honors individuals who made significant contributions to emergency medical services in Texas. This honor is intended to remain a permanent part of the EMS history of this state. Nominations are due June 1. For more information on how to nominate someone for Texas EMS Hall of Fame or to see who is in the Hall of Fame, visit the website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/emsfam.shtm.



On Duty

Moment of radio silence observed June 25

Can't get to Colorado Springs for the National EMS Memorial Service? You can show your support for those in EMS who lost their lives by participating in the Fourteenth Annual National Moment of Silence at 8:30 p.m. (CST) on Saturday, June 25, 2011. The National Moment of Silence is a simultaneous, voluntary moment of radio silence observed by the nation's EMS providers, agencies and emergency communications centers. The moment of silence is timed to coincide with the moment of silence observed during the actual National EMS Memorial Service held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, that day. In the past, more than 700 agencies and dispatch centers from around the United States have participated in the moment of silence. The National EMS Memorial Service has prepared a suggested script, which is available at <http://nemsms.org/silence.htm>.

